



## RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS EXECUTIVE OFFICE

June 24, 2015

Dear Chairman Porter, Commissioner Craddick and Commissioner Sitton,

It is with a great sense of accomplishment and achievement that I announce my intention to retire as executive director of the Railroad Commission of Texas, effective August 31, 2015. Now is the appropriate time for me to step aside and give someone new an opportunity to build on the great accomplishments of this agency over the last two years.

I want to thank Commission staff for their dedication in meeting the significant challenges facing the agency when I arrived. Among our most significant improvements; modernization of a woefully inadequate and outdated IT infrastructure, elimination of crushing backlogs in agency permitting processes, the hiring of a staff seismologist and adoption of some of the most stringent rules on seismicity in America. I also want to thank legislators for their support in providing the Commission the resources necessary to meet our regulatory mission on behalf of all Texans.

In addition to meeting our critical regulatory functions, it has been a priority of mine to make the Railroad Commission the agency people want to work for, if they want to work for the State of Texas. I am confident the agency has made progress toward that goal, as well.

Most of all, I want to thank the people of Texas for the opportunity to serve them. They are the reason all of us come to work every day, to make our great state the best place to live, work and raise a family in America.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Milton Rister", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Milton Rister